#17B/PW 03.18.03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION

BATHE et al.

Group Art Unit: 1652

Appln. No.: 09/824,551

Examiner: K. KERR

Filed; August 1, 2001

Title: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES ENCODING HISTIDINE KINASE FROM

CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM (AS AMENDED)

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March 4, 2003

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AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

RECEIVED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 0 7 7003 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

This is in response to the official action dated December 4, 2002, wherein the claims were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs and 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and (b). The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendment and remarks.

I. AMENDMENT

IN THE TITLE

Please delete the present title and replace it with the following new title.

--NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES ENCODING HISTIDINE KINASE FROM

CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

At page 1, line 6, please amend the title to read as follows.

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 2, line 1, amend the title to read as follows.

-- OBJECT OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 2, line 4, amend the title to read as follows.

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.